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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims, which are currently of record in the present application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An endocervical curettings receiver comprising:
an elongate handle having a longitudinal axis;
collection means for collecting and retaining endocervical curettings, which collection means is attached to said handle[,] at a proximate end of said collection means; and
wherein said collection means has concave, spoon shape with a truncated end at a distal end of said collection means, and a circumferential edge which is smooth to avoid cutting or scrapping of the cervical area.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Original) An endocervical curettings receiver as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said receiver is fabricated from stainless steel.
5. (Original) An endocervical curettings receiver as claimed in Claim 1 wherein at least part of said receiver is fabricated from a plastic material that can be discarded after use.
6. (Currently Amended) A method for obtaining tissue from inside a living body, the method comprising the steps of:
inserting a curette having sharp cutting edges inside a body,
inserting ~~the~~ a collection means of an endocervical curettings receiver inside the body, and
positioning said receiver adjacent to said curette, wherein said receiver comprises an elongate handle having a longitudinal axis; collection means for retaining said endocervical curettings, attached to

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said handle, at a proximate end of said collection means, wherein said collection means preferably has a concave, spoon shape, and has a truncated end at a distal end of said collection means; and said collection means has a circumferential edge which is smooth to avoid cutting or scrapping of the cervical area;

moving said inserted curette to cause one or more cutting edges on said curette to cut tissue from the body;

placing or collecting said cut tissue within ~~the~~ said collection means; and

withdrawing said curette and said collection means from the body.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 6 wherein said ~~collector~~ collection means of said endocervical curettings receiver is at least twice the size (in volume), of a collector section formed as part of the curette.

8. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 7 wherein said ~~collector~~ collection means is between 5 and 20 times the size (in volume), of a collector section formed as part of the curette.